

City Council
Study Session Summary
July 11, 2017
Library Meeting Room
951 Spruce Street
7:00 PM

The City Council met in a study session at 7:00 p.m. in the 1st Floor Meeting Room at the Louisville Public Library at 951 Spruce Street, Louisville, Colorado. The following persons were present:

City Council Present: Mayor Bob Muckle
Council member Jay Keany
Council member Chris Leh
Council member Susan Loo
Council member Dennis Maloney
Council member Ashley Stolzmann

Staff Present: Heather Balser, Deputy City Manager
Kathleen Hix, Human Resources Director
Dawn Burgess, Executive Assistant to the City Manager

Members of Public

Call to Order – The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Mayor Muckle

Presentation – Worthy Cause III Program Review from Boulder County Commissioners

Boulder County Commissioner Deb Gardner and Megan Davis of the Boulder County Commissioners office gave a presentation on Worthy Cause. This tax was implemented in 2000 due to generosity of Boulder County residents. The money generated has helped non-profits with capital projects.

The program supports 501c3 entities with capital projects needs. It is a .05% countywide sales tax. It has been in place since 2000, extended in 2003 and 2008. In 2008 it was extended for 10 years so it will expire in 2018. The funds are awarded for fixed capital equipment, not office equipment or IT needs.

Revenues have grown over the past 10 years. In last 5 years all funds have been available in a pool fund. There have been \$5 – \$10 million in requests for the approximately \$2 million available.

Typically, agencies with longevity are looked at. There have been 113 awards to 43 agencies between 2009 – 2017. Amount awarded in total is in excess of \$19m. With match funding, an estimated \$50m has been invested in Boulder County non-profits as a result of Worthy Cause. Human service and community service based.

Projects funded include:

- Children and Youth
- Health and Well-being
- Housing and Homelessness
- Basic Needs and Economic Well-being
- Community Safety

Housing and Homelessness is a big need along with children and youth. The “Housing First” model was discussed.

Investments in Louisville total about \$3m

- Housing Authority
- Community Food Share
- Dental Aid
- EFAA
- Tru
- Sister Carmen

Community Outcomes include:

- Increased and improved the type of services available
- Increased number of clients able to be served
- Strengthened connections and collaboration between providers
- Strengthened providers – helped providers get a foothold

The next steps: Worthy Cause is set to expire in 2018. Polling showed 79% are in favor of extending for 10 years. 82% were in favor of extending for 15 years. Discussion ongoing to decide whether or not to pool or give specific agencies more focus. It will be considered by the BOCC on August 15, 2017.

Meals on Wheels, Mental Health Partners, Housing Authorities, Salud, are among the non-profits Boulder County is considering funding outside the pool. Mayor Muckle said those are very worthwhile causes but why they wouldn't be asked to apply like other agencies.

Council member Stolzmann asked about addressing jail overcrowding. Commissioner Gardner said the ask for that will be big and will be funded outside of Worthy Cause as it will include transitional housing, substance abuse care, job training.

Council member Maloney asked about the percentage that will be asked for on the ballot. Commissioner Gardner said it will be a renewal of the current amount. Council member Maloney asked if property could be purchased for affordable housing. There could be a way to structure something (ie: a third party owning it). He would like to see countywide ballot issues looking forward 5 years.

Mayor Muckle asked who judges the projects. Commissioner Gardner said there is a team of staff from the County Departments of Housing and Human Services, Community Services, Commissioners Office and the County Attorneys Office.

Mayor Muckle asked if there is interest in historical preservation as affordable housing. Ms. Davis said a lot of agencies are in older buildings and they do support those agencies.

Council member Stolzmann mentioned she prefers progressive tax.

City Manager's Report & Advanced Agenda

Deputy City Manager Balser reviewed the advanced agenda

Identification of Future Agenda Items

Council member Stolzmann suggested a collaboration on the September 29th Summit. Deputy City Manager Balser said the idea is to be free-flowing and get interaction. Council member Leh would like to talk together prior to the summit to have idea of what Council would like to get behind. Balser asked the Council to rsvp.

Stolzmann asked about an executive session. Balser will check with Sam Light.

Jay will not be here for July 25th Study Session.

Adjourn 7:57 pm

*Submitted by – Dawn Burgess
July 12, 2017*